new super-fast passenger train between Delhi|New Delhi and Howrah;

(b) if so, when and what are the details thereof; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Seven pairs of Mail|Express trains, including 2 pairs of superfast trains, are available between Delhi|New Delhi and Howrah. Besides, the frequency of Howrah-New Delhi Rajdhani Expresses has been increased from 4 to 5 days a week from 1.10.1986. These are considered adequate for the present level of traffic.

153. [Transferred to the 14the November, 1986.]

Railway Protection Force

154. SHRI NEPALDEV BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state whether the Railway Protection Force personnel have been entrusted with the maintenance of public order under the Railway Protection Force (Amendment) Act, 1985?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): No, Sir.

Employment of Railway Protection Force personnel in the Intelligence agencies

155. SHRI NEPALDEV BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railway Protection Force personnel are on deputation with other Departments|organisations involved in intelligence or counter intelligence operations; and

(b) if so, what, are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No. However Railway Protection Force personnel have been sent on deputation to Departments like the Civil Aviation Security, Central Bureau of Investigation, Ministry of External Affairs etc. as and when requests are received from those departments.

(b) There is no bar in sending Railway Protection Force personnel on deputation to other Departments.

Railway Protection Force as an Armed Force

156. SHRI NEPALDEV BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal under consideration to declare the Railway Protection Force as an Armed Force of the Union; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to provide the Railway Protection Force personnel with the same facilities and perquisites as are provided to armed forces in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) The Government has already declared RPF as an Armed Force of the Union by amending the original Act and retaining the earlier powers of arrest and search without warrant and to conduct enquiry (investigation) under the Railway Property (Unlawful Possession) Act, 1966.

(b) Having regard to the duality in the constitution and functioning of the RPF, the appropriate facilities and perquisites for the RPF are under examination.

Establishment of new Railway Division at Sambalpur

157. SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the establishment of a new Railway Division at